

REMARKS

Initially, Applicant's representative wishes to thank the Examiner and her Supervisor for the courtesies extended during the interview conducted on December 12, 2005. The independent claims of the instant application, claims 1, 10 and 19, have all been amended consistent with the discussions held during the interview to overcome the art of record. Reconsideration of the rejections to, and subsequent allowance of, the instant claims is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

In particular, claims 1, 10 and 19 have each been amended to include either the method step or structure for calculating at least one constraint cost value corresponding, respectively, to the at least one constraint cost. As Applicant demonstrated during the interview, according to the invention disclosed, and now expressly claimed, in the instant application, each of the one or more constraint costs specified by user input is associated with a constraint cost value that is calculated based on the relative priority of each of the one or more specified constraint costs.

As recognized by the Examiner and her Supervisor during the interview, the prior art of record does not contemplate such a calculation of constraint cost values. This is not surprising because the asserted art of record, i.e., Wagner et al., discloses a method of building a graphical user interface (GUI) by hard-coding the graphical parameters of the interface into the system. That is, as shown for example in FIG. 3A, the location and arrangement of the graphical components in FIG. 2A are expressly designated. In Wagner et al. no constraint cost values are calculated because no relative optimization takes place with respect to any constraint costs.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

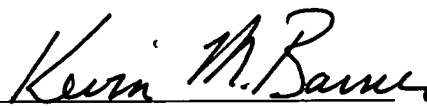
Respectfully submitted,

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